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CIA Seeking Recruits Here

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CPYRGHT

If you weigh 120 pounds, can't hit the broad side of a barn with a gun and don't know anything about karate, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency may have a job for you.

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Thomas L. Culhane, regional personnel representative for the CIA, says the super-secret organization isn't so much interested in "James Bond" types as in serious, dedicated young men and women with advanced training in chemistry, physics, economic geography and dozens of other fields.

"THE STUDENT with a Ph.D. in economics is of more interest to us than someone with the characteristics of certain fictional characters who are popular today," Culhane told The Journal in an interview in the CIA's U.S. Courthouse office downtown.

Culhane is one of at least two CIA men in the Portland area. The other man, employed in the intelligence division, prefers to remain anonymous.

Culhane went on:

"Anyone who applied for a job with the CIA with the idea that he's going to run around like James Bond is going to be disappointed.

"We're a specialized service, and the kind of knowledge we seek is of a sophisticated type from many different fields."

ONE JOB, he said, might be to review technical journals to compile information that would be helpful to the national security.

Such information is digested for the President and the National Security Council.

According to a booklet published by the CIA, the agency is especially interested in the fields already mentioned as

well as international trade, accounting, library science, foreign studies; history, journalism, law, psychology and a few others.

"We don't make any secret of the fact that I recruit here for the CIA," Culhane said. "We go to campuses—Oregon, Oregon State, Reed, the University of Portland—just like IBM or General Motors."

However, Culhane added that his office doesn't actively seek publicity, either—"to keep from talking to a lot of people who get secret messages through their false teeth."

OCCASIONALLY, the CIA man said, there are visits from people who think they are being chased by Russian or Chinese spies, or who are simply curiosity-seekers.

The CIA personnel office has only the recruiter's name on the door at present, but the new telephone directory will list a phone number.

And why does Portland also rate a man in the intelligence division?

Culhane held up his hand and smiled. "He doesn't tell me anything. I don't know."